

Spring 2003

Columns Spring 2003

Southern Adventist University

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The Magazine of Southern Adventist University

COLUMNS



Spring
2003

Pets

For most of my life I've lived without animals, except for a brief stint when my brothers and I begged our parents to get us a puppy. The joy of dog ownership was short-lived, however, as our interest in sports and other activities began to take precedence. After a couple years we gave the dog to our cousins who lived on a farm. I eased my boyhood conscience by rationalizing that our dog was much happier playing with horses and chickens, and after all, my cousins, being the farm-types, were sure to provide her with a loving home.



Several years later I was happily married and casually coasting through life. My wife Joy and I had just purchased a home in the country, our marriage was new, and our plans for children were but a distant thought in the future. Indeed, life was good.

For Joy, however, something was missing. A dog-lover to a fault, she set out to convince me that we needed a dog. It would enrich our lives, guard our house, and give us practice for child rearing—everything that a young couple needs.

It wasn't long before I succumbed to her persistent pleading and began to search the newspapers. In the paper I found several litters of golden retriever puppies. Based on the material I had read and the research I had conducted, a golden retriever seemed to be a dog I could love. Only time would tell.

One year later...

Whoever coined the phrase "man's best friend," must have had a golden retriever. Even at 12 months, Sulley has taught us the true meaning of companionship. With an uncanny ability to sense human emotion, he's the first one to provide sympathy and solace when we're discouraged or share in our celebration when we're excited.

He's a bundle of energy just waiting to explode, which, much to my dismay, has resulted in two destroyed television remotes, several chewed up books, and piles of dog hair in corners, on clothes and occasionally in our dinner. Fortunately, however, the blessings outnumber the frustrations.

Some nights I'll be reading on the sofa and he'll come over and rest his chin on my knee. It's as if he's begging me to read aloud. And on weekend mornings when I'm lucky enough to sleep in, I'll roll over on my pillow and open my eyes and he'll be resting his head on the edge of the bed, just watching, waiting and wagging.

As we celebrate the impact pets have on our lives, we look at several pets and the faculty and staff with whom they share their lives. Sure, pets come with their share of challenges, but they often provide an unconditional love that's beyond human comprehension.

As I have learned over the past year, before Sulley life was good. But now it's even better.

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COVER: Pam Dietrich (Student Services) and her iguana Ig.
PHOTOGRAPHER: Garrett Nudd.

Chick Fleming

The Winter 2003 issue of COLUMNS is of particular interest because it features my friend Chick Fleming, who has been such a great ambassador for the university. A number of years ago, he befriended my good friend and client, Jimmy Johnson, who bequeathed 25% of his estate to Southern.... An interesting aspect of that bequest was that while Mr. Johnson was in the hospital, a Southern Adventist University student who was then working at the hospital would stop by Mr. Johnson's room each night and pray, and because of that and Chick Fleming, Jimmy bequeathed a quarter of his estate to the university.

Joseph F. Decosimo, CPA
Chattanooga, Tennessee

I can personally testify to the greatness of both Chick and Betty. When I was in college at SMC, I had to work my way through. During my junior year Betty and Chick took me into their home. Betty had had major surgery, their two girls were small and Betty needed help, so I was the lucky student.

They were very good to me, always treating me with respect and helping me in any way they could. Chick would spend his time at home with his family until the girls were in bed asleep. Then he would concentrate on his job, but do it at home. Betty was a very supportive wife, and such a good cook. She was always so gracious, but never gave the impression that she was better than anyone else. I learned a lot from Betty that I still use as I entertain.

As far as I am concerned, they are two of the greatest people Southern has seen.

Rose (Schroeder) Chesnut, '53
Martinsburg, West Virginia

Chick has been a friend of mine for many years, and all the complimentary remarks that you said about him in your article were true. He is indeed an outstanding citizen and is admired and respected not only in the Adventist community but also in the greater Chattanooga community.

John C. Stophel, attorney
Chattanooga, Tennessee

The winter issue of Columns was especially meaningful to me. Although I never worked with Chick Fleming, I got fairly well acquainted with him during my short time on the staff at Southern. He is truly a remarkable person and your "Opening Comments" as well as the article about his service were just a reminder of how blessed I am to have known him. Thanks for focusing your readers' attention on his commitment to service.

John Wagner, former Southern president
Indianapolis, Indiana

I have known Chick Fleming all my life, and I married his daughter. Even though I know a lot about Chick, I had either forgotten or not heard about many of his contributions to Southern that were described so well in your article.

Each new generation stands on the shoulders of the preceding generations. It was interesting and insightful to read your article about the many important contributions Chick Fleming made during his 30 years as business manager.

Rollin Mallernee, '68
Atlanta, Georgia

Photography

Just a quick note to tell you how much I admire your magazine and to ask a question: who does your photography? We are scouting for some free-lance photo work, and the cover, along with some of the other shots, are just excellent. Thanks!

Paul Conn, Lee University President
Cleveland, Tennessee

Editor's Reply: Most photography for COLUMNS is taken by Office of Public Relations staff members. The cover photo of Chick Fleming was taken by Billy Howard Photography, a professional photography firm located in Atlanta, Georgia.

InBox is designed as a forum for reader feedback. Questions, concerns, compliments, criticisms, and even discussions—all are welcome and encouraged. Please send InBox letters to: Columns Editor, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN, 37315-0370 or e-mail garrett@southern.edu.

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Actions Speak Louder Than Words

by Sam Nkana, School of Journalism and Communication

A few years ago, I had an experience that helped to prepare me for my job as a professor in the School of Journalism and Communication. My high school students taught me how to understand young people and helped me to become a better teacher and mentor.

It was sometime in 1996 when my wife decided she wanted to serve as a missionary physician. She received an "Abrahamic" call to serve at Bella Vista Adventist hospital in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico. What was there for me?

I was not sure how God was going to use me. Six months went by and I was beginning to see my life melt into a meaningless monotony. I wanted to do something for the Lord so I decided to volunteer at Bella Vista Adventist Academy.

In fall of 1998, I was offered a full-time position to teach English and British Literature at the high school. I felt this was a great opportunity to use an iron fist to change those children whom I thought had behavior problems. The Lord stopped me in my tracks and said "Peter, put up thy sword into thy sheath...." I quickly learned that teaching requires denouncing who you are and allowing Christ to run the program through you.

Aiming to be Christ-like

Once you understand each student's predisposition, half the battle is over. I found that these young individuals were really signaling for help instead of being out to get me. They were seeking love, attention, and above all, they were seeking identity. These needs were not vocalized, but in most cases they were expressed through negative actions. I've learned that as a teacher I needed to build a stronger relationship with God. It is through this relationship that I was able to understand how to offer a selfless service even to those I believed did not deserve it.

Through my daily contact with the young people at Bella Vista, I realized I was becoming more patient and my quick temper was put in check. When something went wrong in the class, we all worked together to resolve it. Our aim was to be Christ-like as we allowed God to use all the tools available to do the work for us. I learned to laugh with the students and shed a tear or two with them. Learning what makes them tick is a part of the puzzle to problem solving.

Building Friendships, Keeping Promises

My relationships with the students at Bella Vista went beyond the classroom to becoming personal friends with each student. I received a life lesson every time I came in contact with them. I hope to have the same positive experience here at Southern Adventist University as I did at Bella Vista.

I promised my students at Bella Vista that our friendship would con-

tinue even though I am here in the States. I visited them this past Christmas. I also traveled to Andrews University to listen to them perform at a music festival. As I promised, my family and I visited them to support them during their activities. I plan to go to Puerto Rico this summer for their graduation. I believe it is essential to keep promises to young people.

Looking back on my experience in Puerto Rico, I see that a platform was built to prepare me to meet another group of students at Southern. What a privilege it has been for me to be with students who fear God. It is a beautiful experience to meet with students, to pray with them, to cry with them, to rejoice with them.

Encounters with students help solidify who I am. Students know when someone cares about them. At the invitation of my students, I've attended basketball games, vespers programs, weeks of prayer, and concerts. Many have expressed surprise that I actually showed up at their invitation. One student jokingly told me, "When I saw you I was nervous because it felt as though you were grading me."

There are so many dimensions in this university that have taught me to walk the right walk. My wife and I have recently committed to becoming sponsors of the

BCU Gospel Choir. We've been able to travel with them to Oakwood College, to Atlanta, Georgia, and to Orlando, Florida. Once again a relationship has been built and a promise has been made. Our walk together towards heaven has begun. The lyrics they sing make a new impact on my life every time I listen to them. I tell the choir, "If you're not in for a service for the Lord, Jonah, get off the boat."

Teaching is a Journey

Teaching is a journey that will never end. Learning is also a journey that continues to eternity. It takes a lot of sacrifice to teach and to learn; nevertheless, it is worth every pain one might encounter. There is a saying that goes thus, "The best gift a man can give to his children is to love their mother." And I say, "The best gift a teacher can give his or her students is to love the Lord." If we genuinely love God we will truly love our students and they will know it. Because actions always speak louder than words. ✧



Carla McKenzie

A Dynamic Motivator

Most days, you'll find Carla McKenzie with beads of sweat dripping off her face and shouting exercise instructions at the YMCA in Cleveland, Tennessee. As a personal trainer, Carla knows how to get people motivated about exercising and about life. "I'll work people hard but they'll never feel it until the next day," she says.

This dynamic woman graduated from Southern in 1991 with a nursing degree. When Carla came to Southern, she was a psychology major. Her advisor, Ed Lamb, saw that she was bored with her classes and encouraged her to pursue nursing. "I am very thankful that Ed Lamb was bold enough to suggest a major change," she says. That very day, Carla became a nursing major.

During Carla's three years at Southern, she played basketball, was a residence hall assistant for a year, and sang with Love Divine, a vocal group of six girls. Most of her time, though, was consumed in studying for her nursing classes. "I told Mark, my boyfriend at the time, don't plan to see me during the week," Carla remembers.

Carla married Mark McKenzie, also a '91 graduate. Today Mark is an internal medicine physician in Cleveland. While Mark attended medical school in Ohio, Carla worked as a pediatric nurse. She also helped new parents with their babies in her role as pediatric nurse advisor. While Carla enjoyed nursing, she loves being a personal trainer. "I'll never go back to nursing," she says. But she does admit, however, that

she has kept her nursing license current, "just in case anything happens."

The McKenzie's moved back to the Collegedale area eight months ago. "Both Mark and I had a positive experience at Southern, so we moved back to allow our children to have the same experience," Carla says. The McKenzie's have four children: Malcolm, 8; Monica, 6; Maxwell, 5; and Meredith, 2.

Family time in the McKenzie family is not usually structured. "We love to rumble, we love to laugh," Carla says. Most Sabbath afternoons, her children beg to watch family home videos. "They want to see each other growing up," she said.

Carla's positive, happy personality spills over into every aspect of her life. In fact, Carla was dubbed the nickname "Bubbles" by her friends and family. When one of her children is having a bad day, Carla tells them, "Take your bad day to your room because I don't want to have a bad day too."

Carla loves to challenge people. "I want you to feel good about yourself and to feel proud at who God made you," she says. "I don't think people should compare themselves to magazines." She is a great motivator and often practices re-affirming people. "I want to see people be the best they can be."



Richard Johnson

Cooking up a Storm

Three o'clock in the morning is a quiet time at Southern. Most students and staff are trying to squeeze in a few more precious hours of sleep before dawn, but for Richard Johnson, it's time to rise and shine and start another workday.



Tonya Rincon

Learning to Change Lives

She is a psychology major graduating in May, but it will likely be years before Tonya Rincon leaves the familiar atmosphere of the classroom. Partly because she wants to get her Ph.D. in cognitive science, but mostly because she loves tutoring. It seems to come naturally for Tonya, and has become an important part of her life.

It was in the first grade when Tonya had her first taste of helping fellow students. "I remember the youngest boy in our first grade class had a hard time understanding what to do," Tonya says. "One day, our teacher asked me to help him, and from that day on, I never stopped. In fact, I helped him learn how to read."

With that early start, Tonya continued tutoring and researching learning disabilities. Now, Tonya tutors students with documented disabilities and teaches a tutor-training course on campus.

"A lot of my research on the brain concerns higher-ability functions, neurological disorders

Richard is head cook for the cafeteria, and in order to offer breakfast to hungry students at 6:00 every morning, he begins preparing food hours in advance. By the time the first student arrives, breakfast is ready and waiting: toast, waffles, biscuits and gravy, eggs, hot cereal, grits, tater tots or French toast may be on the menu.

Richard has been feeding Southern students for 15 years, but he's enjoyed cooking ever since

he was a child. "My mom didn't have to buy me many toys because I played in the kitchen," says Richard. "I remember her saying 'Richard, get out of those pots and pans!'"

From working as a Campus Kitchen delivery boy during his college years to becoming head cook today, Richard has developed his childhood pastime into a full-time, enjoyable career. He even got his food service degree from Southern.

Richard is no longer a student, but he enjoys interacting with students every day, and supervises many of the cafeteria's 60-plus student workers. "Students make this job fun," he says.

Of course, not everything in food service is fun and games. On occasion, workers don't show up for their shifts, food orders get confused, unexpected crowds demand more food, and pranksters switch the salt and sugar. In the winter of 1993, a blizzard knocked out power for most of Collegedale, leaving Southern as the only facility in the area with power and hot food. Roads were iced over and no supplies could be delivered to the area, so hundreds of locals came

to the cafeteria for breakfast, lunch and dinner. With dwindling supplies, Richard and the cafeteria staff succeeded in pulling together menus for extra mouths.

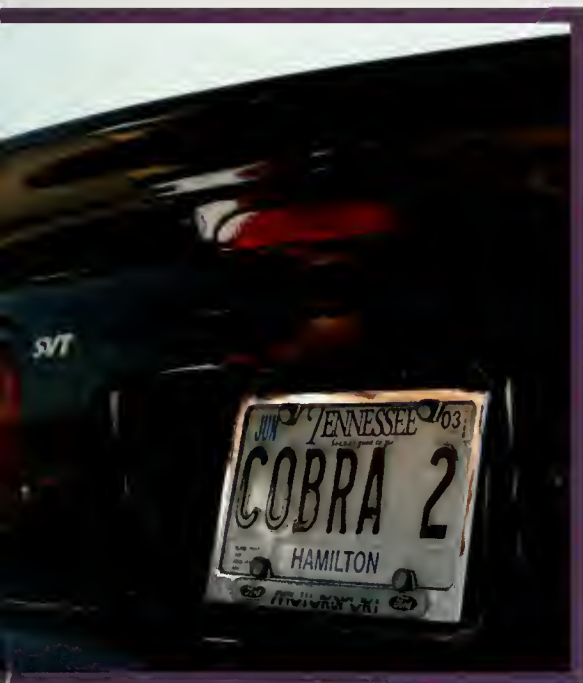
"We were feeding 1,500 people per meal," says Richard. "Even the police and fire departments came for food."

Whenever he's not working, Richard enjoys playing racquetball with friends and showing students how to improve their game. Driving his '98 Ford Mustang Cobra to work and back also adds some excitement to the day, and last fall he accompanied a group of students skydiving. His hobbies also include traveling, and on one of his trips to Europe he helped feed General Conference attendees in Utrecht.

"That was a lot of work," Richard remembers. "I worked 12-15 hours a day for 10 days straight. We fed 10,000 people in two hours flat." At an earlier General Conference in Indianapolis, Richard made 5,000 servings of fried rice for a single meal.

For all the fun of traveling, however, Richard likes coming back to Southern.

"I've been to other cafeterias," he says, "and I think we've got one of the best. I'm thankful to God for my job at Southern. I love it and wouldn't think of doing anything else."



in learning, and learning theories," says Tonya. "Basically, it boils down to knowing how the brain works and an awareness of how to reach each student. When I work with someone, we assess the problem they're facing and figure out how they learn. Our goal is to optimize their brain functions, making learning faster and more effective."

Some of Tonya's students have documented disabilities and some just need a little extra help. Sometimes she is challenged with an extreme situation. Last summer, for example, she was hired as a private tutor for a 13-year-old boy who only read at the third grade level. His parents tried to put him through school, but his disabilities brought tremendous psychological strain and lowered his self-esteem. Other children constantly teased him. In addition to mental aspects, he suffered from severe lack of coordination.

"When we first started working together," says Tonya, "he was so psychologically insecure that we had to work at his home. He couldn't take any placement tests due to test anxiety, so I had to find disguised methods of assessing him

before I could even begin helping him. At first we would just play games and practice simple physical exercises to help his coordination."

After weeks of interaction, Tonya was able to reduce the boy's test anxiety and increase his self-esteem. For the rest of the summer, she continued to help him with scholastic skills. By the time she returned to Southern for fall semester, the boy was completing 11th grade material.

"I've never seen such a rapid change in a student," says Tonya. "We tested his IQ at the end of the summer and he scored in the 99th percentile for his age group! That's why I love this job – God uses me to help change people's lives."



Run. Hop. Crawl. Slither.
Scurry. Scamper. Bound.
Creep. Skedaddle. Fly. S
Flutter. Spring. Pace. Sk
Sweep. Hover. Sail. Whi



We asked Southern's faculty and staff to tell us about their pets. This is what we learned.

We've had a variety of interesting animals—pythons, ferrets, cats, rabbits, dogs, horses, and then there's Ig the iguana. Ig was only six inches long and bright green when we got him 15 years ago. Our son Mark had always wanted an iguana and we thought he would make a nice "little" pet. To our dreadful surprise he has grown to an amazing "little" five feet long.

Ig is quiet and easy to feed. His favorite food is bananas, but he eats most any vegetable. He doesn't demand a lot. And even though he's not cuddly, he has a real bond with his caretakers. At our Florida home,

my husband, Terry, would let Ig loose while he worked in the yard and Ig would follow him all over. While Terry would weed, Ig would crawl onto his shoulder and just watch everything Terry did.

Ig is unique. At one time Mark had a hammock in his room. Ig

would crawl out of his cage, climb into the hammock and sleep there all day, his legs dangling through the netting while he sunned by the window.

There's not much else to tell about Ig except that he has a face that only a mother could love.

Pam Dietrich, Student Services



{ Pam Dietrich & Ig }

Kizzy is about nine years old and we've had her for five years. I love it when Kizzy sits in my lap and purrs. She often likes to wander through the house and see what cabinets she can enter. Since our cabinets don't latch, she is often found sleeping in them.

Kathy Hauge, Student Finance



{ Kathy Hauge & Kizzy }

Gallop. Swim. Paddle. Trot. Walk.
 Canter. Wiggle. Lope. Slide. Stalk.
 Firm. Prowl. Slink. Waddle. Scoot.
 Flit. Flurry. Dart. Dance. Float.
 Amble. Leap. Sprint. Scramble.



Moki Su Bee Honey is a five-year-old Chinese Shar-Pei. I like that Moki is naturally protective, but not aggressive. I also appreciate that she likes to stay clean. In fact, she virtually potty-trained herself. She'd probably make herself sick before "messaging" in her house.

Sometimes I think I should have named her snuffleupagus because Moki makes so many snuffling, snorting noises, including an indescribable sound when she shakes her jowls. Fortunately she's outgrown the snoring she did as a pup.

Moki is snoopy. She always wants to smell people, what they've

touched, where they sat. She often positions herself in the hallway or living room in order to keep watch on everyone in the house.

Joylynn Michals, President's Office

{ Joylynn Michals & Moki }



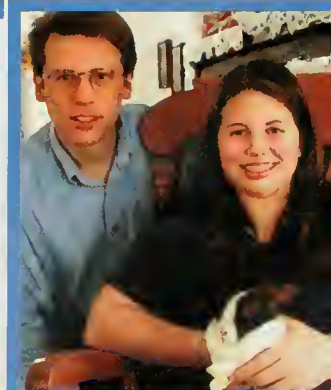
Chocolate is my daughter Heather's three-year-old rabbit. We enjoy Chocolate's sweet disposition and are fascinated that when in the yard, she will not eat grass or clover unless it is placed in her food dish.

One morning when Heather was out of town, I was walking the dog and passed the cage where Chocolate was begging for breakfast. Suddenly, she jumped and began racing like a lunatic around the hutch, trampolining off the screening and making more contact with the walls than with the floor. I thought it a rather extreme food-begging demonstration, until

I saw the truth moments later when I returned to feed her and was promptly stung by a wasp.

There, on the ceiling over Chocolate's food dish, was a golf-ball sized wasp nest. Needless to say, the wasps were soon history, and Chocolate made a full recovery.

Stephen Bauer, School of Religion



{ Stephen Bauer & Chocolate }

Frisbee acquired his name because he should have been born a flying squirrel. As a kitten he would jump from a 14-foot deck with paws spread eagle-like as he sailed through the air with a look of calm, but ecstatic, pleasure. He'd then land gracefully on all fours. He frequently used this "air path" rather than taking the stairs.

Frisbee seems to sense the sacredness of my morning devotions. He gives me no rest in the mornings

until I sit down with the Bible and with him. During this time Frisbee does not pester to be petted, he just rubs against the edge of the Bible and lies there beside me as I read.

Frisbee has been a part of the family for 17 years. His devotion and

{ Verlyne Starr & Frisbee }



loyalty are his best characteristics.

Verlyne Starr, School of Business and Management

Skyлар is an 11-year-old greyhound and former racer that we got from USA Dog Rescue in 1998. He loves to run toward me then swerve just as he gets to me. One day my husband, Warren, was playing with Skylar. Instead of swerving away as Skylar ran toward Warren, he jumped and hit Warren knocking him five feet back and to the ground. After we saw Warren wasn't hurt, it was pretty funny.

My favorite thing about Skylar is his soft coat. He is very protective for a gentle dog. His funniest trait is singing—Erin, our youngest daughter howls at him and he howls back.

Pat Coverdale, Human Resources

Mitzi is our six-year-old schnauzer. She is devoted and affectionate—a loyal friend in a compact package—with the courage of a lion. Schnauzer's have been bred to be ratters and Mitzi will hunt and kill small varmints if given the chance.

Mitzi also loves chocolate (which is supposed to make dogs very sick) and steals some every opportunity she gets.

One Valentine's Day our daughter,

Karen, received a basket of chocolate kisses while she was home for

a visit. After loading her things in her car to leave, Karen ran back into the house for a forgotten item and left her car door open. Mitzi made a beeline for the car and devoured most of the kisses, foil and all within the three or four minutes Karen was gone. Somehow Mitzi managed to get back out of the car by the time Karen returned. It wasn't until Karen got back to her apartment that she realized what had happened. We were concerned, but Mitzi never got sick—though she was a little hyper that evening.

Patrice Hieb, Development Services

(Unfortunately, Mitzi developed hip problems and had to be put to sleep this spring.)

{ Patrice Hieb & Mitzi }



{ Pat Coverdale & Skylar }

Sarena (pictured) and Sydney have been a part of my family for more than two years. It was through complete accident that I became interested in sugar gliders. I saw one in a pet store and couldn't believe how cute it was. The next thing I knew I was taking her home. The pet store owner didn't know much about her so once I got home I had to do quite a bit of research (a method of pet ownership that I don't necessarily recommend).

Sugar gliders are marsupials and are native of Australia and Indonesia. Over the years both countries have outlawed exportation of the

animals so the best way to get them in the United States is to find a small breeder who only has a few pairs. Individuals who breed them by the masses usually compromise their health.

One of the most interesting traits of sugar gliders is that they fly. This, of course, is more common with those that live in the wild. Such gliders have been known to glide the length of a football field provided they start from a high tree.

When I acquired Sarena she ate vegetables really well, which is very unusual. Most sugar gliders have to be coaxed to eat foods that

are nutritional for them. When I mentioned it to the breeder she told me that Sarena's father used to put his arm around baby Sarena

and hold broccoli in front of her showing her how to eat things that were good for her.

Suzy Demaree, McKee Library (A.N.G.E.L.)

{ Suzy Demaree & Sarena }



{ Debbie Higgins & Tiker }



I have pretty much always had fish since I was 14 or 15 years old. I purchased my 45 gallon tank in 1982 in Florida. It was just the right size to fit on our sofa table. In fact, after I saw the tank in the store, I ran home to get a tape measure to see if it would be suitable.

My in-laws, Larry (professor emeritus) and Eleanor Hanson (former Health Services employee), were visiting at the time we bought the tank. Being a young couple just starting out, purchasing an unnecessary extra such as an aquarium was a stretch for our budget. Larry declared the day "National Aquarium Day" and generously donated a significant amount toward the purchase of the aquarium. That aquarium has now been in the family for 21 years.

I enjoy how my fish never make noise and never complain or need

to be taken out on a walk. However, my clown loaches sometimes make me worry. It isn't uncommon to see one lying upside-down on the bottom or in a corner, appearing quite dead, only to rouse again when I look more closely.

{ Volker Henning & fish }



My fish are relaxing for me to watch at the end of a long, hard day at work and although they seem to be just swimming around in an aquarium, each variety has different habits in where they like to swim, how they eat and where each variety fits in the overall pecking order.

Volker Henning, School of Journalism and Communication

he NEVER does that with her, however, he blesses ALL adults with this behavior. By the way, he does wait for you to drag yourself up from the "halfway off his side position" until you are back in the saddle and ready to try again. And people say horses aren't smart?!

Tiker has won blue ribbons at Class "A" Arabian horse shows, but he has also been blamed with turning a perfectly civil horse show into a rodeo. As one trainer said, "Tiker is predictably unpredictable." But if you are in the barn hammering a nail into the wall, try putting the hammer between his teeth and he'll give it a swing at the wall as well. And if you put a broom handle in his mouth, he'll try and help you clean up—as long as he can imitate you. So you may go to the barn to de-stress as with a typical horse, or with Tiker, you just might walk away more stressed!

My favorite thing about Tiker? He's smart, he's quick, he knows my car when I drive up, and he's my soul-mate. You can't beat that!

Debbie Higgins, English Department

{ The Moniyungs & Bun Bun & Bennie }

Bun Bun is a black dwarf rabbit, weighing about two pounds. She is curious and loves to give bunny kisses. Bennie is a brown mini rex mixed. He is a bit shy but loves to eat. He weighs about eight pounds.

When we're home, the bunnies run around freely. One of the most interesting things they do is the bunny marathon or "binky," which translated means bunny dance. At Christmas, their favorite hiding place is under the Christmas tree. The tree skirt fascinates them.

They eat, nap, and get into mischief together.

Herdy Moniyung, Information Systems



{ Diane Proffitt & White Cloud & Lightfoot }

My husband Eddie and I each grew up on farms and we've been around farm animals all our lives. We met Lightfoot several years ago when her owner asked if we wouldn't mind boarding her. We took her in and really became attached. When the owner was struck with financial difficulties, he offered to sell her and it was a deal we couldn't pass up.

We got Lightfoot and White Cloud from the same owner and have had them for two years. We have three horses, and we're always excited when people come over and ride them. It's so neat to see the look on a child's face the first

time they get on a horse. We love letting people enjoy our animals.

We really enjoy having Lightfoot in the family. She is a really nice horse and has been used as a trainer to teach riding lessons to children. My favorite thing about Lightfoot is that she has such a wonderful spirit and she's picky about the people with whom she hangs out.



We are currently awaiting the arrival of an addition to the Proffitt family. Lightfoot is due to produce a foal later this spring.

Diane Proffitt, School of Nursing

We have had chickens at our house for about eight years, starting when we lived in Illinois. My father-in-law gave our two sons four chicks for Easter one year. Three of them ended up being roosters so two were given away. We had those two chickens until we moved to Collegedale.

Not too long after we moved we bought several chicks. The boys took care of the chickens and ran an egg business for several years. At one time we had as many as 60 chickens, but we are now down to a total of seven: one rooster and six hens.

The hen that I am holding is one that we hatched and raised. She is one of the only chickens that we've given a name. We call her Stubbs because her legs are shorter than most of the other chickens.

One of the most interesting things that we have observed with the chickens is the way in which the roosters take care of their hens. Many times we have seen a rooster find something good to eat, such as a bug or grub or something that we have thrown into the pen. He won't eat it himself but will call a hen over and give the food to the hen. Once we threw in a part of an old loaf of bread. When the rooster discovered it, he started pecking off bite-size pieces and placing them on the ground and calling the hens over so they could eat.

Bruce Schilling, Chemistry Department

It started last summer when our neighbor asked me to come see his birds. My neighbor's health was failing, that I knew, but what I didn't know was that he was looking for someone to take over his

lady gouldian finches. These feathered friends fill our home with beautiful songs, cute dances and incredible colors. Well, the males do, anyway. The females will not sing or dance.

The birds have been quite an adjustment for us and they require a significant amount of work. Fortunately, my wife Abby does most of the day-to-day duties, while I construct the aviaries and take on the heavy lifting.

We don't go out of town very often, but when we do, the birds can manage for two or three days. If we're away longer than that, we arrange for sitters.

The business side of this birding project is just beginning to take off. We presently sell birds at bird fairs and to private individuals. In the future we plan to supply birds and Southern-Style Aviaries to nursing homes and professional offices. The "personalities" and uniqueness of each bird does make it difficult for us to part with them, but that's part of sharing these feathered gems of creation.

We love watching them, but almost as interesting as watching our birds is watching people's reactions when they see the birds for the very first time. One student, upon seeing the birds said, "David Houtchens' coolness factor just went up 200 percent." The investment has already paid off.

David Houtchens, Campus Safety

{ David Houtchens & aviary }



bird business. We considered buying a pair of his birds, but hadn't considered buying 45 pair!

But now we have up to 90 birds living in three bird rooms in our home. Zebra finches, star finches, society finches, shaft tail finches, love birds, and the crown jewels,

The males put amazing work and attention into courting, nest building, brooding (sitting on the eggs) and chick rearing. Just like with people, the males go to great lengths to please the females, and most males help with rearing the young, although some do not.



{ Bruce Schilling & Stubbs }

{ Sheila Smith & Winnie & ChuChu }



night. Of course it is really my bed, but Winnie and ChuChu don't know that.

On several occasions I have brought ChuChu with me to work at the Center for Learning Success. I believe that pets can be a big help to students with learning differences. One of my funniest memories is of the day a blind student and I were walking our dogs. The blind student was being lead by her seeing-eye dog and I was leading my blind ChuChu.

Sheila Smith, Center for Learning Success

{ Stephen Ruf & Webster }



When Webster and I are in Collegedale, I do have to be careful to keep her a safe distance from the duck pond on Southern's campus. Webster would love to play with the many ducks...but I don't think the ducks would enjoy it much.

Webster lives outdoors in our fenced in back yard. She does escape

sometimes—by busting through the gate. Most recently, Webster broke out and knocked over all our neighbors' trashcans. My wife, Jodi, came home, discovered the mess, and called me away from my office to help clean up the neighborhood.

Webster loves to jump up and sit on top of her doghouse. She's a true Ruf dog.

Stephen Ruf, School of Journalism and Communication

Whistler is a five-year-old tabby we got as a kitten right after we married. Tommy and I named her after the resort in British Columbia where we went for our honeymoon.

Whistler is our favorite and is known by visitors for her friendliness and "fetching" skills—that's right, she fetches like a dog—but of course gives it her own cat spin.

Harper seems emotionally disturbed and higher maintenance than a cat should be. He is very vocal and requires a lot of attention. He definitely has "issues." Now that we live where he can go outside more, he seems much happier.

My mom found both our cats as

{ The Dillers & Whistler & Harper }



strays. We enjoy animals and hope to someday add to our collection. A big dog who doesn't drool would be ideal.

Lisa Diller, History Department

{ Alberto dos Santos & Tiger }



Tiger is his name, but he also goes by Mr. Cat. Mr. Cat adopted us as a little kitten. Now being a waif, he really should not have taken up much space and time in our home, but that has not been the case.

Mr. Cat has recently been put on a wellness plan by Pet Smart, which costs us \$30 a month. Can you believe that!

But he has won Alberto's heart. Alberto actually adores him. Mr. Cat will sit on Alberto's lap while watching the news on TV and every now and then lift his head to gently bite Alberto's chin. If that

is not true love, I don't know what is. I think he is trying to say in his little kitty heart, "Thanks for letting me into your home and heart."

Joan dos Santos, English Department

Webster is my 95-pound black Labrador retriever. She has been granted a diploma from Pet Smart's obedience school, but she's forgotten nearly everything that she learned.

Webster loves to go hiking. She's a natural hunting dog, so I like to take her out on the trails and streams. She loves to fetch sticks out of water and chase birds through mountain meadows.



A Lady, First

Interview by Garrett Nudd

Generous. Caring. Dignified. Graceful. Everything about her embodies southern hospitality. For many people Cynthia Bietz is their first contact with Southern, greeting visitors to the campus and answering phone calls at the switchboard. "I love welcoming people to the campus," she says.

In a candid interview the first lady of Southern speaks about her passion for entertaining, the source of her spiritual strength, and her role as the wife of a high-profile university president.

For Cynthia Bietz, hospitality is not just a job, it's a way of life. "She has a way of creating an atmosphere that makes people feel comfortable," says her husband Gordon. "It comes naturally to her."

Their house is a charming colonial-style home that looks as if it jumped straight off the pages of *Southern Living* magazine. "We moved from California to Tennessee sight unseen," Cynthia says. "The realtor showed us this house and our twin girls, who were eight years old at the time, looked in the window and said, 'mommy, you're going to like this one.'"

On the inside their home is tastefully decorated with antique sitting chairs, elegant marble-top tables, and beautifully refinished oak pieces collected through the years. Each piece is unique and has a story of its own.

Her story is one of faith and family. Throughout her 35-year marriage, she has been by her husband's side as he served as pastor, conference president, and for the past six years, university president.

What do you feel is your role as the president's wife?

I want to be everything I would like a president's wife to be—friendly and caring to every person, whether they're a student, staff member, or visitor. I think a president's wife should be seen on campus—always smiling. There are so many places you go in the world where people aren't enthusiastic and friendly anymore.

On a university campus it is easy to fall into the mindset that an individual has to have a Ph.D. or an advanced

degree to be valuable, but there's much more to it than that. Every person should be valued no matter what level of education they have achieved. The students need our love and care. They come to Southern as children and they leave as adults. We have the opportunity to be such an influence while they're here.

As for my role as Gordon's wife, I enjoy working in the background. I've always tried to be supportive of my husband's work. I share my ideas on various issues with him, but he does not tell me all that is happening in order to spare me worry and added stress. I take things too personally. I wish I wasn't so much of a perfectionist and a type-A personality.



Type-A personality? Explain.

It's fine to try to do all things "right," but I believe a perfectionist aims to do everything "perfect," and that's impossible in this life. I'm trying to follow a quote I heard recently: "Try to live life between steps." In other words, enjoy the moment and don't take all the detail of life too seriously.

Tell me about your hobbies.

I have so many interests that there's never enough time to do all I'd like to do! I could keep busy just staying home. I especially enjoy antiques, refinishing antiques and decorating. If I want something to feel new I just move it to a new location in the house. I also enjoy gardening, canning, and yard work if I'm not too busy with other activities.

My daughters and I always share favorite recipes since they like to cook too. We do quite a lot of entertaining when Gordon's home, especially with Southern's employees. My goal is to have all the staff and faculty over for a meal, but that could take forever!

I'm not much of a game person. I'd rather be creating something—something tangible I can see and will last. I rotate from sewing, making antique samplers, to quilting or painting. It's all fun and creative.

Traveling is of special interest to me. I'm so lucky I'm married to a man who has the opportunity because of work to see different parts of the world. In January Gordon taught a class on leadership in Korea, and in March we visited a school in Thailand. Every place is unique and interesting, even the countries I never really wanted to visit. There's some fascination about every place!

I heard a rumor that one of your hobbies is shopping on e-Bay.

I check e-Bay for antiques and items I collect. I've only bought 23 items. I rationalize my shopping on e-Bay because I'm purchasing pieces I can use for entertaining. I'm a bargain hunter: flea markets, tag sales, and clearance. My motto is buy

it cheap and repaint or refinish it.

Many employees say you're the consummate hostess. Is entertaining a hobby or a job?

Entertaining is a job that I enjoy, but it's a lot of work. Unfortunately Gordon's

travel schedule makes it hard for us to have people over. I used to enjoy going into people's homes when Gordon was a pastor. I've always enjoyed pastoral visits. A person's home tells a lot about someone and it's really nice getting acquainted with people that way. But since he's their boss now, we don't have the opportunity to visit with as many people in their homes. He obviously can't just invite himself over.

What does it feel like living under a microscope?

You get used to it. Sometimes people stare at you and wait for you to speak to them. They have such high expectations. People are always judging whether you're friendly or not. Even when you travel you can't get away from people who know who you are.

You share Gordon with so many people and responsibilities. How does that make you feel?

It is challenging, but I've gotten used to it. I have realized that the stress of a husband's job can affect the home. Long hours at the office, difficult decisions and hard challenges take a toll. As a wife, when these demanding times come, you just have to "back off" and let the job take all his energy and time. I can tell when Gordon's mind is on tough issues. Fortunately, I know when he gets through the challenges, there will be better days ahead. Sometimes you have to sacrifice for the sake of the institution.

What do the two of you do to get away from your responsibilities?

We enjoy nature and camping—when the weather's perfect! We like walking and hiking. And as I've mentioned, we also enjoy traveling. We're very fortunate that Gordon's job allows him the opportunity to travel because of so many speaking engagements and other responsibilities.

Tell me how you and Gordon met.

He was a senior at La Sierra and I was a freshman. He was one of a group of senior theology majors known as the "Frantic Five." Gordon used to ask a different girl out every weekend, and his rule was that he'd only ask a girl out once. If she was busy and couldn't

go, he'd never ask her out again. He called and asked me out for a Friday evening, but I already had plans. He asked for Saturday night and I had plans then too. So he asked if he could take me out Saturday afternoon if he promised to have me back in time for my date that night. So I said yes.

What was your first impression of him?

I thought he was great from the beginning. We met at a resident assistant social and he was the life of the party. Everyone thinks he is so serious, but he really has a good sense of humor. My first thoughts were "this is the winner." But I didn't want to get my hopes up.

I heard that before you met your husband, you weren't very fond of the name Gordon.

I haven't known too many Gordons over the years, but when I was a child, I knew a little boy named Gordon who wasn't very nice. I always associated anyone named Gordon with his personality, and for that reason I never really cared for the name Gordon, until I met my husband.

Why did you marry Gordon?

The miracle in my life is that the Lord chose my husband for me. I always tell young women to just pray about it and leave it up to the Lord. Don't do the hunting yourself. Whenever I did the choosing I wasn't happy. Only the Lord knows what's best for you. I could've never picked anyone better than Gordon.

Gordon is such a kind, good and gentle person. He always looks for the positive in people, even if there's a lot of negative. Gordon has been the best thing that ever happened in my life. I feel so blessed! Sometimes his jobs have required quite a lot from me, but it has been so worth it—serving the Lord, our church, and young people, who are the future of our church.

Tell me about your children.

We have two daughters, identical twins, Gina and Julie. We've so enjoyed them. They're so much alike, at times it's been like raising one child since they have done so much at the same time. They were obviously born on the same day, and they were married



1971

that's as good as it gets. Both Gordon and I are really close to our daughters but in different ways. The girls and I enjoy so many of the same things that makes us naturally close, but they go to Gordon for advice and counsel.

Has it been quite an adjustment to go from being parents to being grandparents?

We have four little grandchildren. The girls are 3 years old and the boys are 16 and 17 months. The term "grandmother" sounds ancient to me, but it's worth having little ones around. They're so funny, cute and precious. We love being around them.

But being a grandparent is just like people say: it's nice that you can enjoy them without having to take care of them all the time.

in a double wedding on the same day. They are both physical therapists. They had baby girls five weeks apart and a couple years later they had baby boys five weeks apart. Once they even bought identical dresses in two different states on the same morning without even communicating with each other. Their similarities are amazing.

Sometimes the children of high-profile parents stray from Christian ideals. What is your secret to parenting?

The secret is family. Spending time together. Sharing. You have to be a role model for your children. Children see everything. As parents, Christ has to be living in your hearts. Parents should love each other and love God. Parents need to have a three-way relationship between husband and wife and God.

Church has to make sense and be practical. If it doesn't work they'll throw it out. Looking back on our experience we weren't perfect, but the Lord knew our intentions. We were really blessed. Sometimes Gordon jokes that he's thankful we only had two children because we might have messed up on the third one.

What has brought you the greatest joy in life?

It sounds so trite, but a good marriage, children that have become our best friends—

Where do you find your spiritual strength?

I think most of us need to spend more time in Bible study and prayer. I know I do. I gain a real blessing when I pray for others and special issues, see results, and then share those results with others in witness. It seems we all grow in spiritual strength through this process. And religion becomes very real and practical. Each day on the way to work I pray the Lord will use me to be a positive influence to a student, employee, or phone caller.

What do you appreciate the most about Southern Adventist University?

I believe the Adventist Church is becoming more and more worldly. At Southern we are trying to provide a conservative Christian atmosphere. And whether parents and students want to admit it, they appreciate what we offer. I appreciate the fact that we are holding to standards that others are not. I think many people appreciate that. ✧

Bringing Light to the DARK CONTINENT

by Ryan Wallace

Photos by Volker Henning



VBS children



VBS children



Jennifer Wuerstlin

It was Christmas day, and the Atlanta airport was busy with the bustle of holiday travelers rushing home to their families and friends. Christmas carols played between airport announcements and holiday decorations on the walls made the atmosphere festive as a group of 31 students, staff, family and friends stepped through the automatic doors. Hauling backpacks, bags, suitcases and boxes, they slowly wove through the check-in queue. Few bystanders would have guessed, but this group wasn't headed for a winter vacation or family reunion. The boxes they hauled were full of medical and educational supplies, not gifts. Their flight was headed to New Jersey, but that was only the first stop on the long trip to Kenya. Instead of Christmas vacation, this group was heading out on a mission trip.

After boarding, everyone settled into their seats for the first leg of the long journey. For most of the flight, everything appeared normal. Just before arrival in Newark, however, the captain's voice crackled over the intercom.

"Folks, we have a problem," he said.

Instantly the passengers stopped talking, some removed headsets to hear every word. With the apprehension of terrorist attacks in their minds, they waited eagerly for the captain's explanation.

"All the airports in the area have been closed due to unsafe weather conditions," the captain continued as many passengers breathed a sigh of relief. "Unfortunately, we don't have enough fuel to continue circling until the runways are reopened, so we'll have to return to Atlanta."

Groans filled the cabin as the realization sank into the passengers. For the mission group, this meant they would miss their connecting flight to Ethiopia. To make matters worse, the next available flight wouldn't be for three or four days.

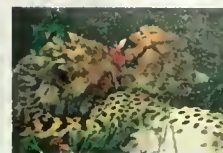
In fact, it wasn't until five days later that the mission group finally left the country. This time, no flights were cancelled, and they arrived in Kenya many hours later. Yawning and blinking from jetlag and the hot African sun, the travel-weary group left Nairobi for the mission site.

"Just getting to our mission site seemed like half the trip," said Ciara Hivale, freshman business major.

Many within the group had never been to Africa before, and driving out to the mission site in the middle of Masai territory offered an incredible glimpse of the African savannah. Before beginning construction and starting the VBS and medical clinic programs, everyone helped set up camp.

"We stayed in tents," said Ciara. "Even the kitchen and dining facilities were tents. Our shower consisted of an open-roofed cubicle just beyond camp. It was a little scary at first because you could hear all kinds of wild animals out in the bush as sunset came every evening."

Once they set up camp, they wasted no time in getting to work. With the help of some locals and student missionaries from Zambia, the construction team built a cement-block school building. Another group was responsible for the children's VBS program. Unfortunately, the airline had lost the boxes containing almost all of the VBS materials, so craft supplies and teaching aids were extremely limited. A third



The whole team



Judy Winters



Brian James

group, mostly nurses, a couple physicians, and other medical workers, offered two medical clinics: one in the church by the school, and another in a village not far away. "The clinic work was really amazing," said Susan Lucas, senior nursing major. "I got to do lots of different things, including pulling a tooth." The hot sun made work difficult, but the alternative was little better. Rainstorms would blow over with little or no warning, sending everyone scurrying for shelter. "We could never tell when it was going to rain," said Susan. "The Masai could somehow tell when rain was coming, and just

Geographic, and really brought home the reality that we were in Africa."

Thanks to the vehicles, the students could get up close to otherwise dangerous animals. During a drive through tall grass, one student was dangling his arm out the open window when suddenly everyone in the vehicle heard a loud 'whoosh.' Turning his head to the window, the surprised student saw a giant king cobra looking back at him, head reared up at a level with his arm, tongue flickering. The student immediately jerked his hand inside the vehicle before the snake

"A mission trip is a great way to see God..."

before it hit, the animals would disappear and everything was eerily quiet." The rain usually brought wind too, and on occasion it blew so strongly that several people had to hold down the food tent to keep it from blowing away.

After putting in days of hard work on the mission site, it was time to have a little fun. Packing up camp after five days, the group headed out to Masai Mara, a wildlife game reserve not far away. Starting early in the morning, the group piled into 4-wheel-drive SUVs for a day of safari. Giraffes, hippos, elephants, zebras, lions, spring hares, and many other animals roamed freely through the grasslands, savannah and rivers.

"Just being able to see the animals was an amazing experience," said Ciara. "It was just like what you see in National

could strike. Needless to say, the group was thankful for God's protection, and were more cautious the rest of the trip.

After rumbling back into camp at the end of their tour through the savannah, the tired but happy group gathered for evening worship. Following songs and prayer, many began sharing how much the trip had meant to them. Even though they were there to be a blessing to others, God had used this trip to bless them each in a different way.

"Going on a mission trip is a great way to see God working in everything you do," said Susan. "Helping the Masai at the clinic, teaching the children about God's love, building a school or just witnessing to anyone you meet. It's all about shining God's light into a dark world." ✨

Southern Sells College Press

Merging print shops will result in efficiency and expanded services.

Neither Ed Lawrence nor David Ingram knew how their friendship would develop when they met in church 25 years ago. Ingram was a Sunday School teacher and Lawrence his student. Gradually their friendship grew and eventually the two became business partners in 1992 when they purchased a small print shop in Cleveland, Tennessee.

Lawrence had been employed in high-end printer sales and Ingram in print production.

Together they created a perfect business partnership. Eleven years later Modern Way Printing & Fulfillment has expanded into a 14,400-square foot shop in Ooltewah that serves

clients nationwide. Their ingredient for success is time-tested and simple. "Whether you're a customer, supplier, or employee, we treat everyone the way we would like to be treated," Lawrence says. And that attitude has turned Modern Way into one of the premier printers in the greater Chattanooga area.

"There's no doubt that we've been blessed," Ingram says.

Lawrence adds, "a lot of printing businesses have come and gone over the past 11 years that we've been in business, but for one reason or another we've been successful. I think it all boils down to good moral values, solid principles, and having the right priorities."

Last year Southern's board of trustees voted to sell the College Press. After learning the Press was for sale, Lawrence and Ingram expressed their interest to Gordon Bietz, university president, and Marty Hamilton, director of leaseholds.

"From the beginning I was impressed with their professionalism, sense of vision, and commitment to excellence," Bietz said.

After many months of negotiating with several interested parties, the Press was sold to Modern Way.

"We're really excited about the opportunity," Lawrence says, "because the two shops are a perfect compliment to each other." The College Press is set up to run larger quantities while Modern Way is designed for smaller runs. The Press's set-up doesn't allow for competitive small to medium runs like Modern Way, according to Lawrence.

Another selling point was the Press's reputation in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. "The Press has a long history of doing good work and that appealed to us," Ingram says. "We think the combination will be a perfect fit."

The new owners are dedicated to meeting the needs of their SDA client base. "We should be able to improve on what they're used to

quality that we've received from Modern Way."

Throughout the changes the name will remain the same. "We believe there's a lot of value in the 'College Press' name," Lawrence says. When a client receives an invoice it will still be from the College Press. The only difference is that if the job is better suited for one of Modern Way's presses, it will have been printed more efficiently at Modern Way.

Southern's administration is so confident about the transition that in March, Southern sent Marty Hamilton along with Lawrence and Brad Fisher, interim manager of the College Press, to the General Conference in an effort to smooth the transition for clients in the Washington D.C. area. The warm reception and pledging of continued support was exactly as they had hoped.

"We want to be right up front and let

people know that Adventist support is essential to the success of our business," Ingram says. "We're utilizing full-time Adventist workers, part-time university students, and retired press workers who are interested in helping. When business gets heavy I'd much rather use people with a good Christian work ethic and similar characteristics than going to a temp agency."

As he walked through the Press one afternoon just after the announcement that Modern Way

would purchase the Press, Ingram was pulled aside by Floyd Tucker, a retired employee who had worked at the Press for many years.

"We want you to know that we're all behind you 100 percent. You have our full support and we're glad to be on board at such an exciting time," Floyd said.

And with attitudes like that the future looks bright and colorful. ✧



From left: David Ingram, Ed Lawrence, and Brad Fisher

seeing," Lawrence says. Previously the Press had delays as small, simple jobs took press time away from more complex jobs. Merging the two shops and their equipment will alleviate some of that downtime.

"The university has been using Modern Way for several years to fill our printing gaps," said Rob Howell, director of public relations. "We couldn't be more pleased with the service and

Fine Tuning the Instruments in God's Hands

by Jennifer Jas, '92

How often does a student say that the hours spent on a school assignment were the most enjoyable and life-changing hours they have ever had? More often, perhaps, if the student is enrolled in Southern's School of Religion.

The School of Religion is a department where, by the very nature of the coursework, many students personally experience God's power and love, which often results in life-changing experiences. Meanwhile, students are gaining the education they need to serve the Lord as preachers, teachers, missionaries, chaplains, deans, archaeologists, and other religious workers.

Multiplying Like Loaves and Fishes

The School of Religion is one of the fastest-growing departments at Southern. While university enrollment as a whole has grown by 52 percent since 1988, the School of Religion has grown by 167 percent. With 243 majors, it's by far the largest undergraduate religion department of all SDA colleges or universities.

"We are told that Southern's School of Religion is supplying half of all pastors in North America," says Ron Clouzet, dean of the School of Religion. "We have an incredible responsibility and we continually seek God's guidance and direction as we prepare leaders to minister in these last days on Earth."

In addition to the growing number of majors, all 2,200-plus students on campus crisscross through the department to fulfill the requirement for four general religion classes.



From left: Joel Willis, Sam Sarmiento, Michael Hasel, Justo Morales, Celeste Angell

Practical Training at Home and Abroad

Even before they earn a degree, most religion students are directly involved in sharing the gospel with others at home and around the world. During yearly evangelism field schools, junior and senior theology students hold their own full-scale crusades, preaching to hundreds of people in the Southern Union and in countries such as Ghana, Kenya and Venezuela. In the past three years, students have baptized more than 2,000 people.

The purposes of the field schools are to work with local churches to spread the gospel, and help students learn public evangelism. They get to experience the joy of seeing hundreds of new believers, and return with a fire for evangelism.

Students also learn practical ministry skills for working in a church. The Ministerial Externship Program assigns junior and senior theology majors with a mentoring pastor. Jessica Williams, theology and religious education major, says this program has been valuable to her. "My mentor

pastor has helped me gain great experience in worship planning as well as determining and implementing how we as a church can grow," she says.

The Promised Building

Currently the School of Religion is in Miller Hall, where there are not enough offices or classrooms to go around—but not for long. The school is poised to move into its new building in July. The renovation of Hackman Hall (the former science building) is nearly complete, and will triple the department's space.

The new building will have ample offices and classrooms, with a technological homiletics classroom, a library, and gathering places for

students. But the two crown jewels of Hackman will be the Archaeological Museum, and the Evangelistic Resource Center. Together they reflect the school's emphasis on biblically based learning and evangelism.

The museum will house a major teaching collection of Near Eastern antiquities, titled "Vessels in Time: A Journey Into the Biblical World" and combine art and interactive technology covering

3,600 years of biblical history. "This will be one of only two museums in the United States dedicated to the archaeological history of the Bible in an academic setting," says Michael Hasel, professor and director of archaeology. "Situated in the Bible belt, I believe we will attract visitors from throughout the region as well as provide three-dimensional education experiences for our university campus."

The Evangelistic Resource Center will tell the story of evangelism in the past, present and future, and will also be highly technological and interactive. "It will provide practical resources to do evangelism," says Carlos Martín, professor and director of evangelism. "It will also provide data for the student wanting to do evangelistic research, and inspiration for every visitor to commit his or her life to reach a lost world for Christ."

No matter what direction a graduate's passion and training will take them, they are solidly grounded in scripture and have a clear burden for the salvation of others. ✧

Meet the

BOARD

Composed of individuals from a variety of backgrounds and professions, Southern's board of trustees brings a collective wisdom to the leadership of the university. Over the next several issues *Columns* continues to feature board members to give readers the chance to know each one personally.



Bill McGinnis

Occupation: Personal investments

Family: Wife Kitty

Home: Ooltewah, Tennessee

Hobbies: Golf

College: Southern Adventist University

Why he serves on the board: I am interested in seeing young people today have the same educational opportunity I enjoyed.

One piece of advice:
Start your own business

Role Model: Father

The last book he read: *Bet on the Bayou*



Georgia O'Brien

Occupation: Nurse, teacher, homemaker

Family: Husband John and three children

Home: McDonald, Tennessee

Hobbies: Reading, scrapbooking, visiting with friends, dinners with my husband, nights out with my kids

College: Southern Adventist University

Why she serves on the board: My love for the university and interest in the academics of the university because of my stint of teaching in the School of Nursing.

One piece of advice: Include as many outside activities as you can. You're only in college once.

Favorite place to visit: The beach



Kenneth Coonley

Occupation: President of Carolina Conference

Family: Wife Sonja, two children, four grandchildren

Home: Charlotte, North Carolina

Hobbies: Golf and horsemanship

College: Southern Adventist University

Why he serves on the board: I serve on the board because of my interest in Southern. Also because I am a conference president.

One piece of advice: Do more than is required to get by. Education is essential if you plan to have success in the future.

Favorite place to visit: Banff, Canada



Malcolm Gordon

Occupation: Southern Union President

Family: Wife Hazel Marie, two children and three grandchildren

Home: Stone Mountain, Georgia

Hobbies: Photography

College: Andrews University

Why he serves on the board: Because of my interest in Adventist education.

One piece of advice:
Keep close to Jesus.

Favorite place to visit: New England

Role model: My uncle



Jeffrey White

Occupation: Pediatrician

Family: Wife Clara and two sons

Home: Dalton, Georgia

Hobbies: Golf, audiophile

College: Oakwood

Why he serves on the board:
I relish the thought and live for the opportunity to do anything to ensure a wonderful future for our younger generation.

Role model: My father and Jesus

What is the last book you read: a book on the life of Grace Vanderbilt



Mel Eisele

Occupation: Minister

Family: Wife Phyllis and two children

Home: Montgomery, Alabama

Hobbies: Evangelism, watersports, auto re-building, flying

College: Southern Adventist University

Why he serves on the board: To help create the best school possible.

Favorite place to visit: Southeast Asia

Role Model: King David

The last book he read: *How to Change Your Church Without Killing It.*



Ellsworth McKee

Occupation: McKee Foods, Chairman and CAO

Family: Wife Sharon and four children

Home: Coltwah, Tennessee

Hobbies: Camping, working in the yard, boating, jet skiing, and studying the Bible in Greek and Hebrew

College: Southern Adventist University

Why he serves on the board: Southern is and has been part of my life since 1950.

One piece of advice: Enjoy what Southern has to offer including your Bible classes.

HOW to Master Your Lawn

by Mark Antone

When I think of Southern Adventist University, I think of color. I think of the red brick buildings and the fall blaze of the maple leaves. I think of white columns and dogwood blooms. When I think of color, I think of a Little Yellow House, forsythia, marigold and pansy blossoms. The color that stands out in my mind as the undisputed campus king, not to mention one of the school colors, is green. Green represents nearly 100 acres of campus landscaped area, the majority of which is turf grass.

The lawn areas are a part of campus life, being used for many events and recreation. This makes them not only aesthetically pleasing, but functional as well. Keeping these areas maintained takes planning and a hard working crew of staff and students throughout the year. It has been a big part of my responsibility, as director of landscape services, to protect and maintain these areas.

STEP 1 *Take the preliminary steps to ensure that surface water flows away from the house and does not puddle. Sometimes grading or moving soil may be beneficial.*

Homeowners in our area often have questions regarding establishing and maintaining their lawns. In your quest for that "Southern Living" lawn, you need to consider elements of turf survival as well as budget and time factors.

How much time and money you are willing to spend on preparation and maintenance will determine the quality of your lawn.

STEP 2 *Consider existing trees. Areas under trees are not conducive to growing good turf and mulching is often the best option.*



The foundation for a good healthy lawn is drainage. The site should be graded so surface water flows away from the house and does not puddle. It may be necessary to use underground drainage for excessive amounts and downspouts. Your soil conditions will also determine how well your site drains. Preferably, you will have four to six inches of decent soil to work with. There are some areas on our campus that have little or no topsoil. Adding topsoil to these sites is an easy fix, if it is available and the grade will allow. This, however, is costly if you have to purchase the soil, have it trucked to the site, and leveled out. If your existing grade is good, but soil is poor, the addition of a soil

conditioner such as compost or peat moss will definitely help. Tilling in to the ground two to three inches of compost, along with some sand, can do wonders to even our Tennessee clay.

When evaluating your site, considerations should include any existing trees. Soil tends to be more acidic under trees, which along with the other conditions, is ideal for growing moss but not a healthy turf. When trees are involved, the shade, surface roots and compaction are all added problems. A good solution to this problem is to mulch the areas under your trees, making beds for ground cover or shade-loving plants. This is healthier for your trees, and can add a new dimension to your existing landscape.

STEP 3 *Enhance your soil by conducting a soil analysis and adding the appropriate nutrients.*

Here are a few steps to enhance your soil. Get soil samples of the area and take them to your county agricultural agent or a garden center that can do a soil analysis for you. This will tell you what your soil needs for sustaining turf. The type of seed you need to use in the shade is important as well. The two common grasses used in our area, tall fescue and bermuda, will not grow well in the shade. Look for a well-blended shade mix that includes varieties of hard fescue, such as Red Creeping and Chewings fescue. These varieties are better



suited for the harsh conditions under trees. Raising the cutting height of your mower to three inches will help, as well as watering deeply and frequently.

Other natural conditions also affect the health of turf grass. Temperature plays a big role on seed selection, as well as maintenance practices. Ideal temperatures for cool season turf growth are 60 to 70 degrees with a maximum of 90 and a minimum of 40. Root growth temperatures would be best at 50 to 65 degrees with 77 the max and 33 the lower limit. Tennessee is considered in turf growing terms as being in the transition zone, which means too hot for cool

STEP 4 *Look for a well-blended mix of seed that is best suited for the environmental conditions in which you live.*



season grass and too cold for warm season grass. We use tall fescue in newly seeded and highly visible areas because of its pleasing year round green. When I select seed for campus I use a turf type tall fescue that has been tested for its resistance to heat and drought conditions. Bermuda grass grows well in our area also, in some instances too well. It is a hardy grass for the recreation fields because of its drought tolerance and ability to hold up to cleated

STEP 5 *Water frequently. Active growing turf uses one-tenth to three-tenths of an inch of water daily.*

university students. The down side of Bermuda is its dormant color, opposite of our favorite. Because of its brown winter color, there are many areas of campus with bermuda that we overseed in the fall with perennial rye grass. This grass will stay green through the winter and go dormant in the late spring as the bermuda begins to green up.

Water is the next element to consider. Active growing turf uses one-tenth to three-tenths of an inch of water daily. From May through September, moisture levels for healthy fescue grass are all low. Combine this with higher temperatures, clay soils, and increased foot traffic, it's a wonder we can stay green at all. With the help of under ground irrigation, we can supplement moisture to, again, the highly visible areas of campus. These figures also explain why seeding time in open areas without irrigation is always best done in the fall. The cooler temperatures and available moisture allow the seed more time to get established in preparation for summer's conditions.

Turf grass nutrition is another important element in maintaining a perfect lawn. Providing the proper mixture of oxygen and water is essential to healthy grass. Compacted soil, inadequate moisture, and excessive moisture can all affect the turf's ability to "breathe." Good fall aeration can help. Use a method of aeration that actually pulls a plug of soil that can be raked up or broken up. This allows roots to fill the uncompacted areas and moisture to

penetrate the surface. Turf "food" is made up of primary, secondary, and micronutrients,

all of which are usually in a good store bought fertilizer. In the spring, we use a slow release fertilizer combined with a pre-emergence herbicide on our high traffic areas, for a quicker spring green up and to control early spring weeds

STEP 6 *Help the turf breathe by aerating each fall. Then spread "turf food" to provide the grass with the necessary nutrients.*



including crabgrass. Fall is the time to "feed" your grass an extra helping of nitrogen, again, because of optimal growing conditions.

I hope these tips can help you in your quest for that perfect lawn. It has been my privilege to inherit a well-designed landscape here at Southern Adventist University. I love my job at Southern, and have always felt that indeed, the grass is always greener...on this side! ✧

Mark Antone has served as the director of landscape services at Southern since 1994.

Collegedale Campus Undergoes High-Voltage Upgrade

As the university's enrollment continues to rise, adjustments must be made to the campus infrastructure to accommodate the increasing demands of a rapidly growing academic institution. One such campus adjustment is the installation of a high-voltage line, three HV switches, and seven transformers.



The high-voltage line had to be installed before construction could begin on an addition to Talge Hall, which commenced on March 3. Crews spent the month of February working through poor weather, digging their way from one end of the campus to the other. "We had three crews working simultaneously on different parts of the campus," said Ed Lucas, director of energy management.

The new 12,470-volt primary high voltage system will replace the 4,160-volt system that is

housed inside both residence halls and Wright Hall, the administration building. The old system has been in place for 19 years and was in the way of construction on the new Talge Hall addition.

The rerouting of the line has plenty of advantages, including safety.

"New safety codes suggest that housing such systems indoors is unsafe," said Gordon Bietz, university president.

The new cable is encased in concrete and buried a minimum of three feet underground. The cable stretches from the student park area on Park Lane and feeds Talge Hall, Thatcher Hall, Thatcher South, Wright Hall, Lynn Wood Hall, Hackman Hall, and Daniells Hall. The contractor ordered 20,000 feet of high voltage cable.

"It was really a mammoth project," said Ed Lucas, director of energy management, "but it needed to be done."

The Black Christian Union's Gospel Choir and Singers Perform Series of Spring Concerts

February was filled with performances for the student-led Gospel Choir and Singers. The themes for their two major programs were We Shall Overcome, a concert celebrating Black History Month, and A Tribute to Women of the World, a concert honoring godly women of past and present.

The choir, made up of 60 student members,

also performed during two tours this spring: one was to Orlando, Florida, and another concert tour took them along the East coast.

"The Gospel Choir uplifts the name of Christ wherever they go. Every time they perform, the choir members acknowledge the way God works in each and every life through their music and verbal testimony," said Lillian Disla,

senior psychology major and choir member.

The group is actually two choirs: the Gospel Choir and the Gospel Singers. They began as the Black Christian Union choir. The choirs practice



about two-and-a-half hours a week and also have additional practices in preparation for concerts.

"We add new pieces to every concert," said Lee Buddy, Jr., junior music major and conductor. "If the same song is heard in multiple performances, it is because audiences want to hear it, or we get feedback that it is a blessing in some way."

The Gospel Choir and Singers represent a diversity of backgrounds with members from at least 10 different countries. "Diversity in race, age, music experience, and spiritual gifts not only makes our choir more dynamic, but it also enhances the way we reach people and the way we portray our Maker," Buddy said.

Fourth Quarter Major Gifts

2002

| Amount | From | Fund |
|-----------|--------------------|---|
| \$10,000 | Private Foundation | Grader Nursing Endowed Scholarship |
| \$10,000 | Alumnus | Worthy Student Fund |
| \$10,000 | Com. 100 Member | Wellness Center Building Fund |
| \$10,000 | Alumnus | Millennium III General Campaign |
| \$10,000 | Alumnus | President's Special Student Scholarship |
| \$12,594 | Estate | Unrestricted |
| \$25,000 | Corporation | Worthy Student Fund |
| \$50,000 | Corporation | The Southern Fund |
| \$50,000 | Trust | Millennium III Endowed Scholarship |
| \$155,550 | Alumnus | Millennium III Endowed Scholarship |
| \$200,000 | Corporation | University Buses |

Baseball All-Star Brett Butler Visits Southern

Baseball all-star Brett Butler spoke at convocation on January 16. Butler shared some sports memories from playing for the Atlanta Braves, Los Angeles Dodgers, and New York Mets. He also talked about his spiritual journey and his battle with cancer.

"If you have a dream, desire or goal, don't let anyone hold you back," Butler said. Goals aren't lasting, but a personal relationship with God is." He also told the students to be concerned about three things in life: faith in God, family, and friends.

Butler is known for his courage, perseverance and single-minded devotion—devotion to the game, the fans, and to God.

"Brett Butler showed us that God is bigger than any profession," said Jared Thurmon, junior international business major and student association president.

"If Jesus had to suffer a little bit, I guess I can handle cancer treatments because Jesus said He wouldn't give me anything I couldn't handle," Butler said when he talked about his bout with cancer.

Butler remained on campus to have lunch with students in the presidential banquet room. He talked about the challenges of balancing family responsibilities and a career as a professional athlete. In the future, Butler would like to coach or manage in the big leagues.



Brett Butler and Brian Niehoff

Four University Employees Recognized with Service Awards

On December 8, 2002, continuing a tradition which began in 2001, Gordon Bietz, university president, presented the President's Award for Customer Service to Kari Shultz and to Brad Fisher and the President's Award for Community Service to Carolyn Achata and to Phil Garver.

Kari Shultz, director of student life and activities, has the unique ability of building trust relationships with students, listening to concerns, and finding a win-win solution to difficult problems. Kari devotes each weekday and many weekends to making the campus a student-friendly environment.

Brad Fisher, associate manager at the College Press, serves as the liaison between the College Press and perfection-demanding customers. He goes the second mile to find solutions that satisfy both the press and the customer.

"Customer service is so important in today's world because people are looking for relationships and experiences with institutions and companies. Institutions that succeed pay attention to good customer service," Bietz said.

Every month, Carolyn Achata, associate professor of nursing, spends time at the Samaritan Center in Ooltewah, Tennessee, working with the foot care program. Carolyn does this

as part of her community health clinicals. She organizes a group of volunteers to help the elderly and disabled with nail grooming.

Phil Garver, dean of the School of Physical Education, Health, and Wellness, actively participates in civic work in the Collegedale community. Phil works to accomplish tasks related to the needs and values of the community. One of his projects is a future war memorial on the Collegedale Greenway. He has also helped to organize the Christian Veterans Club.

The awards were presented at the Employee Christmas Brunch. The honored employees each received \$500 and a desk trophy.

Academy Students Blend Voices at February Music Festival

One hundred students from eight academies participated in the 2003 Southern Union Choral Festival on Southern's campus.

After 15 hours of intensive sectional and full choir rehearsals, Southern Union academy students performed on the afternoon of February 22 in the Collegedale Church.

"With many new music professors, the School of Music is featuring the new personalities in the annual music festivals instead of bringing in a clinician," said Scott Ball, dean of the School of Music. Clinician and Southern music professor Bruce Rasmussen came to Southern in 2001. His goal for this clinic was to

increase the students' music abilities and help them find fulfillment through music.

"It's important for the academy students to stand on their own and trust their own voices before standing side-by-side with the university students," Rasmussen said. Members of the established choirs joined the academy students for two numbers.

"This music adventure doesn't stop today," Rasmussen said, "It continues through life and into heaven."

Participants included: Collegedale Academy; Forest Lake Academy; Miami Union Academy; Fletcher Academy; Greater Miami Academy;

Madison Academy; and Oakwood Academy.

The 2004 festival will feature band and orchestra disciplines.





Participating in the groundbreaking were (from left to right): Clair Kitson, assistant director of plant services; Bob Franklin, architect; Dwight Magers, dean of men; Gordon Bietz, university president; Malcolm Gordon, Southern Union president; and Dale Bidwell, senior vice president of financial administration.

Groundbreaking Held for Talge Hall Addition

A groundbreaking ceremony was held in March to signify the beginning of construction on an addition to the Talge Hall men's dormitory. In attendance were the Board of Trustees; Bert Coolidge, Collegedale City Manager; Jim Ashlock and Chuck Widden, Collegedale City Commissioners; Bill Hullender, Hamilton County Commissioner; and a host of university faculty and staff.

The addition to the men's residence hall will provide rooms for 260 additional students, and is expected to be completed by the fall semester of 2004. The estimated cost of the project is \$6.25 million.

Southern's Campus Hosts 3ABN Live Broadcast

Danny and Linda Shelton, founders of the Three Angels Broadcasting Network (3ABN), hosted a live nationwide broadcast of a Bible question-and-answer program held on campus in the Collegedale Seventh-day Adventist Church on February 13. A panel of eight answered questions posed by the audience.

Panel participants were Ron Clouzet, dean of the School of Religion; Ty Gibson, evangelist; Angel Ogando, theology student; Michael Hasel, religion professor; David Asscherick, a Bible prophecy scholar and speaker; Jyll Taylor, archaeology student; Jack Blanco, long-time religion professor; and Anthony Smith, theology student.

"We believe in Christian education and we want you to participate," Linda Shelton told the students in the audience.

University students, church and community members asked questions about creation, why bad things happen to good people, speaking in tongues, baptism, the existence of God, children witnessing to un-believing parents and several other topics.

One query explored Satan's tactics in end-time events. "Satan is trying to divert us so we need to live by faith every single day," Hasel commented. For each topic, the panelist turned to the Bible to provide the answers.

"The discussion was uplifting and informative for the local audience as well as for the world-



From top left: Jyll Taylor, Ty Gibson, Angel Ogando, Anthony Smith, Ron Clouzet, Jack Blanco, Michael Hasel and David Asscherick.

wide audience," said Raena Ewing, a junior business major.

The two-hour program also featured a video clip that introduced and promoted Southern Adventist University and special music by Southern's String Quartet and soprano Julie Penner.

Located in southern Illinois, 3ABN uses five satellites to provide 24-hour Christian television and radio programming.

A Service of Southern's Office of Planned Giving

High Interest Low Taxes For Life

Sounds too good to be true? Not for friends and alumni of Southern Adventist University. The United States Government actually encourages gifts to Southern. Note the following example: If you are 70 years of age and give Southern \$20,000, the U.S. Government lets you receive from Southern \$1,440 a year (\$360 quarterly) for the rest of your life. They will also permit you to take a \$7,490 tax deduction. Not only that, but you will pay taxes on only \$786 of the \$1,440 yearly income. That makes the 7.2% fixed payout of your annuity seem as if it is earning 8.4%. **Give to Southern, receive an attractive income for life, and save taxes all at the same time.**

Would you like more information on how you can receive High Interest/Low Taxes for life?

Please call Southern's Office of Planned Giving at 423.238.2832 or 1.800.768.8437 or send an e-mail to pgsmith@southern.edu

President Adds Personal Touch to the University's Website

Southern has added a feature to the university website. Visit <president.southern.edu> to access the new website of Gordon Bietz, university president.

The site includes a professional and personal biography section, as well as photos and a direct link to e-mail the president. Also available on the site are copies of sermons and a high-resolution

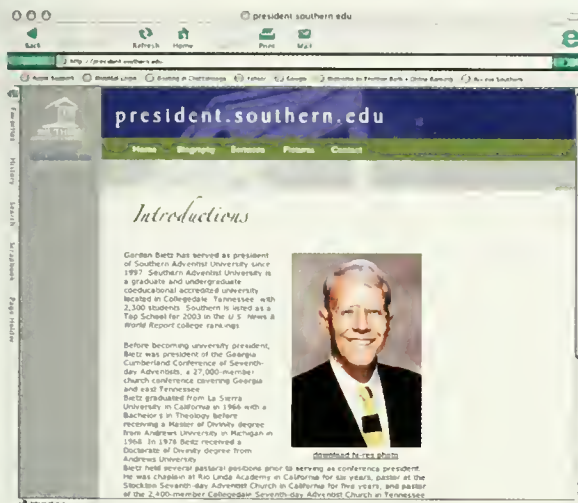
photo that can be downloaded by individuals requesting a photo to include in camp meeting programs, bulletins, etc.

"We felt that adding a site for the president would be beneficial for many reasons," said Rob Howell, director of public relations. The public relations office frequently receives requests for the president's photo and biographical information. According to Howell, the new site makes the most often requested information easily accessible.

Bietz is pleased with the functionality of the new website. "It's nice to have sermons available to those who want copies, but it's even more beneficial to be accessible to everyone through e-mail when people have questions or comments," Bietz said.

The link to the president's personal site was officially added to the university website in January. "I think one of the biggest strengths of

the site is that it very personal and it accurately represents our president," Howell said.



Calendar

May

- 7-9 First Summer Session registration
- 9-11 Commencement exercises
- 27-30 Second Summer Session registration

June

- 23-27 Third Summer Session registration

July

- 16 Commitment Deposit and Housing Deposit due
- 27 SmartStart and Fourth Summer Session registration

The University is Granted 10-Year Reaffirmation of Accreditation

The Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools has granted Southern Adventist University the full 10-year reaffirmation of accreditation. The announcement comes after the campus has undergone a two-year period of extensive internal and external examination.

"This announcement affirms our conviction that Southern continues to offer quality education," said Gordon Bietz, president. "This 10-year affirmation of our accreditation allows us to continue to pursue our educational mission of passing the mantle in a Christ-centered environment."

Ruth Liu, director of institutional research and planning, noted the significance of this accomplishment. "This reaffirmation of our accreditation is public recognition that our colleagues in higher education have scrutinized every facet of our institution and have found it to have met or exceeded the standards of educational effectiveness," Liu said.

Southern's external examination was conducted last spring by a 14-member team composed of colleagues from other institutions of

higher education in the southern region. To be granted reaffirmation of accreditation, Southern had to show that its educational programs and resources are adequate to fulfill its mission and goals. The university also gave evidence of a comprehensive system of internal evaluation, ensuring that educational quality would be continually strengthened.

"Evaluation is a continual process as we advance and improve the quality education offered at Southern," Liu said.

Institutional accreditation is necessary for the transfer of academic credits among institutions, for receiving student financial aid, for graduates to gain admission to graduate schools and, in some cases, entering a profession.

Enrollment Services Adds Golf Cart For Visitors

Campus tours are visitor friendly now thanks to the campus's newest golf cart. "We're really excited about showing off our beautiful campus to visitors, and this allows us the opportunity to not just take visitors to one section of campus, but all of it," said Marc Grundy, director of enrollment services.

Tour destinations with the golf cart can now easily include the Collegedale SDA Church, the new Southern Village apartments, and all the academic buildings between Hickman Science Center and Brock Hall. Previously, if a family wanted to see all these locations, they

would have to bring their walking shoes and take extra time to explore these campus sites.



Our Lives Are Only Windows

by Scott Damazo, junior, English major

It is Christmas Eve and I am sitting in a small chapel in Interlaken, Switzerland. I allow my body to relax and my mind to drift as I begin to mentally evaluate the missionary work I've been doing in Prague, Czech Republic, for the past four months.

The first few weeks of school I struggled to prove myself as a competent English and history teacher. Despite the fact that most of my students are a few years older than I am, I thought being a native speaker would make me worthy of their respect right away. But right away I learned otherwise. They knew English grammar better than I did. They knew what gerunds, past participles and phrasal verbs were. I had to look these things up before I "remembered" them—and for a while I didn't even bother looking "gerund" up because I didn't think it was a real word. I quickly realized that I couldn't prove my linguistic superiority with grammar.

I decided to humble them with the most frightening part of the English language: poetry. I brought 12 copies of Robert Frost's "Fire and Ice" to class, with a dying memory of Dr. Rachel Byrd's interpretation from *Approaches to Lit*. They were so intimidated by the poem that they didn't dare scrutinize my fumbled explanation of it. At long last, I got some respect. But did I deserve it? *How could I earn these students' respect when I didn't know most of the things I was supposed to be teaching them?*

Keeping my students' respect, deserved or not, and keeping them motivated were two very contradicting, yet equally necessary challenges. I tried being strict and found I was good at it. I took papers away without showing remorse and they stopped cheating. I locked late students out of the classroom and they started coming on time. I threatened to take cell phones and the phones disappeared.

Strict was working, but a little too well. Their smiles disappeared with their phones, their effort vanished with their quiz grades, and though they were physically in class, their personalities were definitely absent.

To compensate for my authoritarian ways, I turned every class into a game. I told countless stories from my previous work experiences, humiliating myself whenever possible (i.e. using anecdotes from my experience as a McDonald's drive-thru boy).

As I scrambled to balance the pieces of my life that I showed my students, the holidays were quickly approaching, as were our efforts to "non-threateningly" evangelize our mostly atheist student body. Feeling the pressure, I turned my history lessons into personal crusades. With each discussion on the reformation in England, I was hoping to spark an

interest about God. I invited my students to church. I even told one girl I was praying for her when she was having family problems. But was I coming on too strong? *How can I befriend them, discipline them, and show them Christ's love all at the same time?*

As I juggled the roles I played with my students, I also tried to juggle relationships among the other SMs. Trying to be helpful, I would stay late at school some nights to help Chandra write tests or help Allen define phrasal verbs or help Jamey wash dishes. These people really appreciated the help. It was easy to encourage them when I was working by their side.

Others SMs, like Jonny, preferred going to the gym, while Randy liked to crack jokes and Laura liked to go to a restaurant. I could best support these people by stopping my work to show I care about them.

I worried about how I looked to my coworkers—if they saw me as lazy or hard-working. I worried that taking time for one would alienate another. *How could I witness to such different people at the same time?*

My mind drifts back to the present—the small chapel in Switzerland as Brigitte, the organizer of the small Christmas program we are attending, walks to the podium holding a small stained-glass window with a picture of Jesus in it.

She tells how this window is like our lives. It has many different, vibrant colors representing the components of life: our work, our relationships, our passions and even our struggles. God is the sunlight that shines through our lives so that we can see Him in it. The Holy Spirit, living and burning inside us, illuminates our lives from the inside so that others can see Him through it.

Here I've been worrying so much, as I always do, about the window and how it looks instead of making sure that a light is shining through it. Jesus has already made the pieces of my life the colors He wants them to be. It's not supposed to be about me and how I look. And didn't He tell me: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life?" He also tells me in the same chapter: "I do nothing on my own but speak only just what the Father has taught me. The one who sent me is with me; he has not left me alone, for I always do what pleases him."

God is the light. Our lives are only windows. ✧



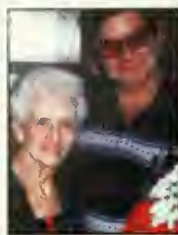


Few students today know about the golden days of Southern's agricultural student labor program. Once the most profitable agricultural industry on campus, the dairy grew from a few cows transferred from Graysville Academy into a herd of 90 purebred Jersey and Holstein cows. Southern's creamery retail offered "Golden Guernsey Milk," "Quality Ice Cream," cottage cheese and other dairy products to the public.

At one time, the college herd had the highest average milk and butterfat production of any herd in three counties, including the most productive cow on record.

30s

Clyde Franz, '32, met his wife, Joyce, in Haiti 50 years ago. After losing their companions they married in 1997 and enjoy retirement in Asheville, North Carolina, and Avon Park, Florida.



Ruth Riffel, '52, makes her home in Apopka, Florida. Ruth is 90 years of age.

Richard A. Young, '59, and his wife, Phyllis, live in Longwood, Florida. Richard has celebrated 30 years of running his own land clearing business. The Youngs have four children and 12 grandchildren.

40s

Oliver Q., attended, and Talietha (Belz) Foust, '42, live in Sacramento, California. For many years, Oliver was the owner of the Oliver Q. Foust Accountancy Corporation.



Malcolm Emory Rogers, '42, is a retired doctor. Malcolm lives with his wife in Kingsport, Tennessee. He and his wife have four boys. Malcolm was the president of the class of 1942.

Martha (Cooper) Weeks, attended '45 to '47, is a retired nurse in Avon Park, Florida. Grandchildren Adrenne Martin and Hughes Hilton attend Southern; Abigail Hilton, '01, is studying at the University of Alabama; and Ashley (Martin) Cauley, '00, teaches second grade and lives with her husband, Mike, in Redmond, Washington.

Margie (Futch), '47, and Robert Bird, '48, live in Wauchula, Florida, for half of the year. The Birds attend the Avon Park Church and help with the Pathfinders. They have two children and six grandchildren.

Otis, '47, and Margaret Graves, attended, live in Apopka, Florida, where they are enjoying their retirement from education and youth ministries.

Paul, '49 and '50, and Ruth (Risetter) Watson, '49, live in Thousand Oaks, California. They enjoy gardening, church work, and their granddaughters (of son James Watson, '82).

50s

Jerald Bromback, '51, age 80, lives in Auburn, Georgia. His wife, Martha, has passed away. Jerald retired from teaching 20 years ago.

Bill Dysinger, '51, and his wife, Yvonne, live in Williamsport, Tennessee. They have four children and 11 grandchildren. They recently took a trip to Australia.

Burton L. Wright, '51, and his wife, Myrna, are active in prison and children's ministries (respectively). Burton is a retired minister, teacher, and missionary. They have two daughters: Judy Clarke, '76, and Jeannie Bankston, '78. The Wrights live in Avon Park, Florida.

60s

Lillian Bolton, '62, and her husband, Arland, have been married for 62 years as of January 2003. They live in Bolton Landing, New York.

Mey (Flory) Pierson, '63, lives in Avon Park, Florida. She is a retired nurse. She finds pleasure in art and has a large collection in her gallery.

L. Edgel Phillips, '65, lost his wife, Lorraine (Young), attended '55 and '56, in October 2001. They were married almost 45 years. Edgel has 5 grandchildren and a sixth on the way. In September 2002, Edgel married Carol Mosher Wallace. They live in Avon Park, Florida.

70s

Jacqueline L. Kinsman, '70, is a retired nursing professor at Andrews University and lives in Berrien Springs, Michigan.

John, '70, and Eileen Negley, attended '67, live in Sebring, Florida, and are grandparents of Matthew and Mark, sons of John Negley, Jr., attended '89 to '92. John, Sr., is assistant vice president for the Florida Hospital Heartland Division.

John Cooper, '71, and his wife, Aleene, live in Lenoir City, Tennessee. John has pastored for the Georgia-Cumberland Conference for more than 38 years.

Dan Serns, '72, and his wife, Lois, reside in Wenatchee, Washington, where Dan is planting a church. They have three children: Jacob, 17; Dustin, 14; and Danesa, 10.

Ruth (Halvorsen) Benjamin, '74, and her husband, Dick, live in Zeeland, Michigan, where they are active in the Bauer SDA Church. Ruth works as an imaging processor at USF Holland. The Benjamins have four children ranging in age from 14 to 30 and two grandsons.

Dale Bohannon, '77, is director of nursing at Skilled Nursing Facility in Salt Lake City, Utah. He also works for Intermountain Health Care Systems as a critical care pediatric nurse. Dale enjoys snow skiing and paragliding.

Linda (Gadd) White, '78, lives in Rolla, Missouri, with her husband, David. Linda has worked as a nurse in Tennessee, Indiana, Missouri, and Guam while the Whites were missionaries. The Whites are active in their church and keep busy caring for their parents.

Neita Carris-Rimmer, '75, is a retired nurse. She lives in Ooltewah, Tennessee. Neita teaches music and leads a mens chorus at the Advent Home in Calhoun, Tennessee. In her free time, Neita sells collections on E-Bay and makes and sells decorator pillows.

80s

Steve, '83, and Robyn (Bates) Blake, '84, live in Gaffney, South Carolina with their two boys, Brandon, 13, and Joshua, 10. Steve co-owns a CPA practice that audits higher education institutions all over the east coast. In January 2000, Steve and Brandon went on an evangelistic trip to Thailand.

Leslie Mathewson, '83, is pursuing a master's degree in nursing at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville and will graduate in December 2003. Les hopes to work as a psychiatric/mental health nurse practitioner. His wife, Kellie (Sauer), '86, is a part-time nurse at Patricia Neal Rehabilitation Center and is home-schooling two of their three children. The Mathewsons live in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Stan, '85, and Barbara (Redden) Hobbs, '84, live in Douglasville, Georgia. Since 2000, Stan has been the Principal at Atlanta Adventist Academy. Barbara is a registered nurse at Douglas Wellstar Hospital. The Hobbs have two children: Caitlin, 11, and Colton, 3.

Cheryl Lynne Reinhardt, '85, is married to Steven George Jones, '85, and they live in Portland, Tennessee with their daughter, Darby, age 6. Cheryl is the medical director of the Portland Emergency Room. Cheryl and Steve are active in the Highland SDA Church.

Bryant, '87, and NaLonna Covrig, '87, both work at Memorial Hospital in Chattanooga, Tennessee. They have two children: Aaron, age 8, and McKenzie, age 4. The Covrigs are building a new home on 22 acres.

Melissa (Cox) Meyerhoffer, '87, lives in Appomattox, Virginia, with husband, Scott, and daughter, Caroline, age 3. Melissa works at home as a medical insurance biller and Scott works in construction.

Kelly Rose Bishop, '87 and '88, received her Advanced Open Water Diver certificate through the PADI organization. She currently works as a financial Assistant for Banknorth Investment Management Group and lives with her grandparents in Bolton Landing, New York. You may visit her website at <capital.net/~piggig/index.html>.



Bo, '88, and Tina (Frist) Smith, '89, announce the arrival of daughter, Carolina Grace, born September 19, 2002. Big brother Tre is 17 months old. Bo manages the information systems infrastructure at McKee Foods Corporation while Tina stays home with the children.

90s

Todd, '90, and Marsharee (Johnson) Wilkens, '90, live with their three daughters, Kelsey, age 10, Kalli, age 8, and Kori, age 2, in Grand Terrace, California. They plan to moved back to Tennessee this summer.

W. Brian, attended, and Tamara (Wolcott) Fisher, '91, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Olivia Lauren, born September 30, 2002. The Fishers live in Avon Park, Florida.

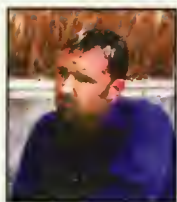
Wayne Openshaw, '92, is a senior marketing communications strategist for Vodaphone in the United Kingdom. Wayne is part of a program to assist Eastern European companies in developing international standards.

Travis, '96, and Aimee (Wright) Patterson, '96, live in Fort Worth, Texas, where Travis is the associate pastor of the Fort Worth First SDA Church. The Pattersons are expecting their first child in June.

Vicki (Spillman) Tyree, '98, received her master's in Occupational Therapy in May 2002. She works in acute and outpatient services at the Self Regional Hospital in Greenwood, South Carolina.

Stephanie (Thompson) Clemons, '99, won third place in a writing contest at a national Christian writer's conference. She works as a secretary in information services at Southwestern Adventist University where her husband is finishing his theology degree.

Stacey Jack McClarty, '99, has chosen a residency in anesthesiology and plans to graduate in May from the School of Medicine at Loma Linda University. He stays active in the community through sports and music and plays in the university's brass and orchestra groups. He hopes to move back to Chattanooga, to the delight of his mother, Wilma McClarty, chair of Southern's English department.



00s

Lucelia Lima, '00, is in dental school at Loma Linda University. She will graduate with her Doctor in Dental Surgery degree in May 2004. She hopes to practice dentistry in Tennessee or North Georgia.

Correction:

Joyce (Goggans) Ford, '53, was listed as a former member of the Committee of 100 in the Fall 2002 issue of COLUMNS. She is currently a member of the Committee of 100. We apologize for this oversight.

picture this:



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Lessons Learned at The Thursday Club

by Jodi Herod, freshman, journalism major

Familiarity. Security. I don't think those words have ever been more important to me than they were on my first day of college. I have grown up in Collegedale for the last eight years with Southern literally across the street. I had always been very comfortable with the idea of going to Southern, but on my first day of classes, I suddenly realized that things were going to be a lot different on the other side of the road.

That first day with so many new faces and names, new teachers, and new classrooms, I was feeling very overwhelmed. As I was walking down the K.R. Davis Promenade in the sticky heat of that late August morning, I had a humbling thought. "Not everybody I walk past knows my name." Coming from being a four-year senior at Collegedale Academy, this little piece of reality shook me up a bit.

By noon when I entered the cafeteria, the noisy social hub of Southern, I was feeling like a very little fish in a very big pond. Just when I was feeling my most insecure and alone, something wonderful happened. I saw my friends. I got familiar hugs, made familiar small talk, and heard familiar laughter. I felt like I was home again.

As the semester went on, three of my friends and I developed a little tradition that I like to call "The Thursday Club." Every Thursday after Convocation we decided to meet at the cafe and have lunch together. This may not seem all that profound or exciting, but it is something that I have looked forward to every week. College is a busy place. In the midst of meeting new people, getting assignments done and turned in, and working, it is so nice to know that at least once a week I will be with three girls who know me inside and out. It has been a way for us to stay connected with each other, to be part of each other's lives. I like to think of it as friendship maintenance. My friends from academy mean so much to me. They watched me grow up, they know everything about me. They really keep me grounded. To drift apart from those important relationships because of busy schedules would be a shame. So the tradition has continued into second semester, and hopefully for the next four years.

Life has a funny but very effective way of teaching us lessons. My first semester of college has taught me that change is just as natural as it is

inevitable. It has taught me that new situations don't have to be feared, that they can be a time for personal growth. It has also taught me how important it is to include the familiar with new experiences, how a few old friends can really give some perspective.

More than any of that though, I have realized again how incredible God is. He is the ultimate security. Life can throw a lot of curves. It is easy to get caught off guard and become overwhelmed by change. It is easy to worry and be lonely in unfamiliar surroundings and situations. But through it all, God can be a foundation. He can be the familiar in the unfamiliar; the friend who knows more about me than anyone I grew up with. He defines the word stability. The Lord has shown me so much in

the last few months, but the lesson that stood out the most for me is that no matter how many twists and turns there are in the road of my life, He is the one thing that will never change. He will always be solid. He will always be sure. It is an awesome and comforting thought that the most powerful being in the universe wants to be my familiar friend, my safe haven. Every experience in life serves its purpose. This is one experience and one lesson I wouldn't trade for anything.

As I finish writing this article, I am looking forward to tomorrow. It is another Thursday, and another lunch spent with my friends. We will have to fight the crowds this time as it is too early in the semester for us to have our Convocation credits out of the way, but it's just part of the "college experience." After all, what would Thursday lunches be without long lines, pasta, and my high school buddies? Who knows what changes the future might hold, or what life has in store for us? In a year we might meet on Wednesdays for

supper, or one of us might be serving as a student missionary across the ocean. One thing is for sure, I will always be grateful for the lessons God has shown me in my life, through changes, challenges and friends. I can't wait to see what God has in store for me next. ✧





The Siskin Rebounders compete against a team of Southern Students in a game of wheelchair basketball. The Rebounders are the top ranked wheelchair basketball team in the country and visited Southern as part of disability awareness week. PHOTOGRAPHER: Garrett Nudd.

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